

**§ 52h.8 What are the review criteria for grants?**

In carrying out its review under § 52h.7, the scientific peer review group shall assess the overall impact that the project could have on the research field involved, taking into account, among other pertinent factors:

- (a) The significance of the goals of the proposed research, from a scientific or technical standpoint;
- (b) The adequacy of the approach and methodology proposed to carry out the research;
- (c) The innovativeness and originality of the proposed research;
- (d) The qualifications and experience of the principal investigator and proposed staff;
- (e) The scientific environment and reasonable availability of resources necessary to the research;
- (f) The adequacy of plans to include both genders, minorities, children and special populations as appropriate for the scientific goals of the research;
- (g) The reasonableness of the proposed budget and duration in relation to the proposed research; and
- (h) The adequacy of the proposed protection for humans, animals, and the environment, to the extent they may be adversely affected by the project proposed in the application.

**§ 52h.9 What matters must be reviewed for unsolicited contract proposals?**

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, no awarding official shall award a contract based upon an unsolicited contract proposal covered by this part unless the proposal has been reviewed by a peer review group in accordance with the provisions of this part and the group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of that proposal.

(b) Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, peer review group recommendations are advisory only and not binding on the awarding official.

**§ 52h.10 What matters must be reviewed for solicited contract proposals?**

(a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, no awarding official shall issue a request for contract proposals with respect to a contract

project involving solicited contract proposals, unless the project concept has been reviewed by a peer review group or advisory council in accordance with this part and the group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of the concept.

(b) The awarding official may delay carrying out the requirements for peer review of paragraph (a) of this section until after issuing a request for proposals if the official determines that the accomplishment of essential program objectives would otherwise be placed in jeopardy and any further delay clearly would not be in the best interest of the Government. The awarding official shall specify in writing the grounds on which this determination is based. Under these circumstances, the awarding official will not award a contract until peer review of the project concept and the proposals has been completed. The request for proposals shall state that the project concept will be reviewed by a peer review group and that no award will be made until the review is conducted and recommendations made based on that review.

(c) The awarding official may determine that peer review of the project concept for behavioral or biomedical research and development contracts is not needed if one of the following circumstances applies: the solicitation is to re-compete or extend a project that is within the scope of a current project that has been peer reviewed, or there is a Congressional authorization or mandate to conduct specific contract projects. If a substantial amount of time has passed since the concept review, the awarding official shall determine whether peer review is required to ensure the continued scientific merit of the concept.

(d) Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, the recommendations referred to in this section are advisory only and not binding on the awarding official.

**§ 52h.11 What are the review criteria for contract projects and proposals?**

(a) In carrying out its review of a project concept under § 52h.10(a) or § 52h.10(b), the peer review group shall

take into account, among other pertinent factors:

(1) The significance from a scientific or technical standpoint of the goals of the proposed research or development activity;

(2) The availability of the technology and other resources necessary to achieve those goals;

(3) The extent to which there are identified, practical uses for the anticipated results of the activity; and

(4) Where the review includes the project approach, the adequacy of the methodology to be utilized in carrying out the activity.

(b) In carrying out its review of unsolicited contract proposals under § 52h.9, the peer review group shall take into account, among other pertinent factors, the criteria in § 52h.8 which are relevant to the particular proposals.

(c) In carrying out its review of solicited proposals under § 52h.10(a) or (b), the peer review group shall evaluate each proposal in accordance with the criteria set forth in the request for proposals.

#### § 52h.12 Other regulations that apply.

The regulations in this part are in addition to, and do not supersede other regulations concerning grant applications, contract projects, or contract proposals set forth elsewhere in this title, title 45, or title 48 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

### PART 52i—NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH ENDOWMENT PROGRAMS (Eff. 10-8-15)

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#### § 52i.1 To what programs does this part apply?

This part applies to grants awarded under section 464z–3(h) of the Public Health Service Act (the Act), which authorizes the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to carry out a program of research endowment grants to eligible institutions to facilitate minority health and health disparities research (the NIMHD Research Endowment Program), and, with the exception of §§ 52i.5 and 52i.6, applies to that portion of an award made under section 464z–4(f) of the Act authorized by the NIMHD Director for research endowment.

#### § 52i.2 Definitions.

As used in this part:

*Act* means the Public Health Service Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 201 *et seq.*).

*Center of Excellence* means, for purposes of grants authorized by section 464z–3(h) of the Act, an institution designated as a Center of Excellence and receiving a grant under section 736 (42 U.S.C. 293) or section 464z–4 (42 U.S.C. 285t–1) of the Act.

*Director* means the Director, NIMHD, of the National Institutes of Health.

*Endowment fund* means a fund that is established by state law, by an institution, or by a foundation associated with an institution that is exempt from taxation and is maintained for the purpose of generating income for the support of minority and health disparities research or research training if the funds are from a grant made under